

FREEDOM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes- June 8th, 2022

Freedom Borough Council met this evening at 6:00 PM for their regular monthly meeting in the Municipal Complex with the following members of Council present: President John Kaercher, William Smith, Mark Forrest, Sydney Kaercher. On the telephone was Dan Baker. Also, present was Mayor Nadine Padezanin.

Absent: President; Vice-President Eric Climo, Bernie Rabik; Solicitor

Pledge of allegiance was held.

President J. Kaercher said our Solicitor is absent tonight due to surgery, he is available if needed by phone.

President John Kaercher reminded everyone present Council members and petitioners that all cell phones cannot be on during the meeting. They should be placed on vibrate and you will need to leave the building if you want to use your cell phone.

PETITIONERS:

Matt Hogue of 125 6th Ave. Couple signs that are completed faded out; No left turn at 2nd St. & 5th Ave. No left turn at 6th Ave and 1st St. Bent One Way sign at 5th Ave and 1st St. A lot of vehicles going the wrong way. Love to see Boro focus on getting the signs straightened out.

Ron & Sharon Boord 1510 5th Ave. Complaining about 1501 5th Ave. neighbor burning construction material from his job, that he starts with gasoline. I have talked to landlord about it. Cannot open windows from smell. Also, yard looks like a junk yard. Pictures were left with Boro. Will contact Peggy Griffith code enforcer.

Ralf James 1530 6th Ave. complaining about 1525 5th Ave. grass needs cut. Property has rats. Retaining wall still collapsed. Boro will contact Peggy Griffith code enforcer.

Jacob Weaver 903 6th Ave. Built a retaining wall in my back yard a few years back with a permit. I am selling my house now and Peggy told me might be a problem for Occupancy, she said she will not hold up the sale. I need to check with Freedom Council to make sure they will not come after me after the sale. The road was already bad before I started work. I offered to help fix, get my concrete saw, form it up. I just need someone to pay for the concrete and bring the back hoe back here. J. Kaercher said we will have the engineer take a look at it.

Scott Challis could not make meeting due to not feeling well. Wanted the Council to be aware of water runoff from the property above him running into his yard and around his

swimming pool. J. Kaercher gets a chance he will take a look at it.

ENGINEERS REPORT:

NO REPORT

STREET DEPT. REPORT:

*A double Motion was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith to enter into an Agility Agreement between Freedom Borough and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation This agreement shall be effective for an initial 5- year period.

*Motion to adopt Resolution No. 05112022-6 authorizing Freedom Borough President as the PennDOT agility partner to be authorized and directed to sign the attached agreement on Behalf of the Agility partner.

All voted. Motion Carried.

* Motion to register to participate in Federal Surplus Property Program was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan, you must reapply every three years.

All voted. Motion Carried.

*Motion to accept Street Department Report was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion carried.

MAYOR REPORT / POLICE REPORT:

*Motion to approve the handicap parking sign at 1060 4th Ave. was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

Just to make sure everyone understands anyone with a handicap placard is able to park there.

Review of Police Report. J. Kaercher said there has been a huge presence of Police in town. Mayor wanted to thank all who took part in making the Memorial Day parade a huge success! Community involvement is needed in Freedom. Police Regional meetings need more attendance from Council. June 16th @ 6:00 p.m. Conway office is next meeting. Discussion was made on Solicitor. Discussion was also made on tax collector. All calls should be directed to Melissa.

We have a resident who is willing to repair of gazebo roof. Repair of street lights; we

believe E. Climo is looking into this. Nets for the basketball courts are up, we have a backup set too.

*Motion to accept the mayor/ police Report was made by K. Horan and seconded by B. Smith.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

MINUTES:

*Motion to approve the minutes from the workshop meeting 4/4/2022 and the monthly meeting 4/13/2022 was made by

M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

*Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried

BILLS:

*Motion to pay bills in the amount of \$11,994.48 and any bills deemed necessary before next month's meeting or as money becomes available was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

SOLICITOR REPORT:

No report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Code Enforcement report from Peggy Griffith for March
2022

Code Enforcement report from Brian Richards for March 2022.

*Motion to accept the Code enforcement report from B. Richards was made by K. Horan and seconded by S. Kaercher.

All Voted. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEES:

Bill Smith: Personnel:

Review Road Dept. applicants in executive session.

Mark Forrest: Finance:

Nothing at this time.

S. Kaercher: Recreation:

Aiming for a movie night this month. Discussion was made on the electricity for that event. We should have a criminal background and child abuse clearance to serve on Recreation committee and we will keep on file in office. Sharon, please call the committee.

Kevin Horan: Grants:

Spoke with Brenda Applegate from Vicary House and they really want to have closer ties with Council. Was hoping to piggyback this year with activities. Discussion was made on when Freedom homecoming will be.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sharon has permission to call and check different phone service for Boro office. We do not need all the phone lines. The Fire Dept. will have someone come check to see why the internet is not working for them, Comcast was out and said the server is all good.

Letter from Debbie DeDominicis Re: sale of a piece of her property to neighbor. J. Kaercher will call Debbie and tell her to move forward with this.

M. Forrest said the BFWA went up and replaced all the caps on fire plugs that were stolen. The fire hydrants were all checked to make sure they are working properly.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business

*Motion to enter into executive session at 7:18 p.m. was made by B. Smith and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion Carried.

* Motion to come out of executive session at 7:27 p.m. was made by M. Forrest and seconded by B. Smith.

All voted. Motion carried.

*Motion to hire Robert Kumrow as Road Dept. full time Laborer at \$17.00 an hour on a 60-day probation; after that he will be at \$17.50 was made by B. Smith and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried.

*Motion to elevate Ronald Miles to Road Foreman position to replace retired John Baker and starting at John Baker's current wage was made by M. Forrest and seconded by K. Horan.

All voted. Motion carried.

*Motion to adjourn at 7:36 PM was made by K. Horan and seconded by M. Forrest.

All voted. Motion carried.

Discussion was made on the paving project. Sharon will contact Baker Engineer and see if they have a copy of the bid that came in from Youngblood Paving last September or October 2021.